INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER T.M.

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A MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE UFO PHENOMENON
REPORTS, INVESTIGATIONS & ANALYSES

"There is no hope of advance in science without a paradox."—Niels Bohr

PROGRESS REPORT: THREE CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

FOUR UFO'S SELECTED FROM 102 CASES

UFOCAT

50,000 UFO reports contained in one computerized file

ON REVIEW:

MUFON'S FIELD INVESTIGATOR'S MANUAL

PLUS:

Foreign Forum,
UFO Profile: October, 1976
Latest UFO News

Editor-in-chief: Dr. J. Allen Hynek; **Managing Editor:** Allan Hendry

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Subscriptions: $12.00 per year in the United States and Canada (plus $3.00 foreign), and $20.00 for two years (plus $6.00 foreign). All notices of change of address must be sent six weeks in advance and accompanied by old and new addresses. J. Allen Hynek, *Chairman of the Board*; David J. Baldwin, *President and Publisher*; Carl M. Teutsch, Jr., *Executive Vice-President*; Harvey M. Koloms, *Treasurer.*

EDITORIAL

by Dr. J. Allen Hynek

In late 1974 I helped create CUFOS, the nucleus for which had already been in existence for several years—a loosely knit group of scientists and technical people with an abiding interest in the UFO phenomenon. Agreement to organize a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to UFO studies was readily reached, especially in view of the wave of UFO sightings then going on in the United States.

So, CUFOS began—without funds but with lofty purpose—to probe the UFO phenomenon. But such a widely scattered group (the Scientific Board is represented by members from many states and many countries) needs an administrative arm as well as Corporate Directors to satisfy legal requirements. An already existing group, dedicated to public education in UFO matters, called PEG (Public Education Group) under the direction of Mr. Sherman Larsen, offered to handle the very necessary day-to-day business facing any corporation that maintains an office and necessarily deals with the public.

Three years later the International UFO Reporter Corporation was formed by myself and associates. IUR is a business venture to create revenues for the pursuit of UFO research by providing the public with responsible information about current UFO events, their investigation and analysis.

CUFOS and IUR are thus a symbiotic team. They occupy the same offices, and have entered into contract whereby IUR avails itself of the CUFOS police toll-free "hot line", its files, and UFOCAT, and CUFOS scientists have available the results of IUR investigation of current UFO cases carried out at length, largely by Mr. Allan Hendry through the use of unlimited telephone services. I hope that you will wish both these organizations well in their pursuit of knowledge.

J. Allen Hynek

CORRESPONDENCE

The editors invite correspondence from all individuals on all matters directly involving UFO activity around the world. Watch for this column beginning with the next issue.

IN CURRENT JOURNALS

In addition to the twenty UFO journals now currently being received on an exchange basis (listed last month), we are now in receipt of UFO-RAPPORT, (No. 4, Nov. 15, 1976). Printed in Swedish.

UFORUM is the new official name of UFO Research Centre: Ontario, Henry McKay, Chairman. Mailing address: P.O. Box 427, Station F, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M4Y 2L8. UFORUM is issued bimonthly; the subscription price, unfortunately, is not printed.

The Sept. 1976 NICAP UFO INVESTIGATOR discusses a well-publicized sighting that took place in Carmel, New York on Aug. 4, 1976. Robert Jankowski, his mother, friends, twenty neighbors and three policemen reported an object first seen by Jankowski through binoculars which blinked red, blue and green colors. Their treatment includes a sketch of the elliptical appearance of the object, but does not clarify that it only appears that way through binoculars. IUR investigated this sighting prior to its first publication, and Mrs. Jankowski told us the object was the size of "a big star" to the naked eye. Add to that the fact that it stayed in one place for almost two hours, was positioned in the southern sky at 9:30 PM below the moon, was not perceived by FAA radar, and did nothing stranger than change. colors and "meander" in place slightly; IUR concluded that the "UFO" was a star, most likely Antares, scintillating through the atmosphere; as IUR readers are aware, this would result in the "blinking", color changes, and up/down/sideways motions. It is IUR's experience that binoculars hurt more than help in these instances, by exaggerating the distorted stellar image (Jankowski watched the image twist and turn, as though it were revealing different views of itself). The sighting served to trigger a wave of newspaper articles and a televised account that flooded IUR's office with "stellar" UFO's throughout all of August.

BOOK REVIEW

MUFON'S FIELD INVESTIGATOR'S HANDBOOK, edited by Raymond E. Fowler, Mutual UFO Network, Inc., 1975. 132 pages.

At first glance, it probably seems odd to treat a "functional" effort such as this as of value to the casual UFO reader; however, there is much material present that is not available in the more generalized texts, or, at least, is not prepared in the detail found here. Most important, few "functional" manuals could be as fun to read.

As a guide to the UFO investigator, the book is top-notch in its comprehensive detail, discussing procedures, equipment, questionnaire forms, preparations, general and specialized cases, and report writing. One of the best organized collections of IFO phenomena that give rise to UFO reports is present here; the book is valuable for this section alone. Information originally intended to aid investigators (e.g., dealing with photographs, humanoid cases, the reliability of testimony) provides significant general reading, as well.

Inquiries should be addressed to MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, Texas, 78155. Highly recommended.

FOREIGN FORUM

This is a representative sampling of UFO sightings from around the world. While we can not exert the same degree of control over these cases we can on domestic ones, it is of value to see that the same characteristics are reported for this phenomenon abroad as in the U.S.

AUSTRALIA: Mildaur, Sept. 25, 1976. Four people travelling by car between farms at Karrawinna observed a strange object on the ground in a paddock. The object then took off like a helicopter and hovered for some time. Mrs. Vera White, one of the four, said that the lights flashed bright red when they drove around a corner; she added that there was no noise, and she could distinguish no object to which the lights could have been attached. "Four pairs of eyes couldn't see the same illusion", she said. They watched the object for five minutes. They returned to the site later in daylight and found a circle of flattened, discolored grass about 30 feet in diameter. The paddock owner said that the circle looked like a helicopter had formed it. Mrs. White said there were no tire tracks leading out to it and none of the farmers could offer a logical explanation. Senior Constable Roy Fletcher of Werrimull said the sighting was one of five reported in the past year in the same area.
SOURCE: The Melbourne Sun, Sept. 29.

BRAZIL: Sao Paulo, *reported* on Sept. 8, 1976. Three men watched a dense, white cloud hover low over Cajati Street, which dissipated, revealing a flying disc. The men were rooted to the spot watching it emit beams of light of various colors. A woman who could see it from her window phoned the police; eight officers drew their guns, one of them shouting, "it's the police". Suddenly, all of the policemen were paralyzed like statues. With everyone motionless, the smoke-cloud reappeared, became denser, enveloped the disc, and the apparition departed.
SOURCE: O Dia, Rio de Janeiro, Sept. 8, 1976.

FRANCE: near Romans, June 10-11, 1976 (still under investigation). Miss Helene Guiliana, 20, was driving home to a farm at Hostun, Drome after a movie and a drink with some friends. Leaving Romans at 1 AM, she usually covers the 17 kilometer distance in 20 minutes. After 6 kilometers, the car misfired, stalled, and the lights went out. "Twenty-five meters away over the bridge, I saw an orange glimmer in the form of a dome. I do not know why I then thought about death and covered my face with my hands", she related. It seemed like a few seconds had passed when that glitter had disappeared. Driving home upset and afraid, she missed a familiar sign and drove an extra 2 kilometers; but when she arrived home, she discovered it was 4 AM. She had "lost" two hours of time. Under hypnosis on July 22, she tells a story which she would repeat in a second session on August 18, word for word. She describes two waist-high "dwarves" with large eyes, dressed in black overalls; they carried her toward the light which she enters through an iron door. Inside a high, round room, they place her on a table, putting handcuffs on her hands and feet. After an examination, she is returned outside and the craft departed vertically without noise. Further investigations are being conducted.
SOURCE: OURANOS, Henry Depireux

FOUR UFO'S SELECTED FROM 102 CASES

HOW WE LEARN OF UFO'S: UFO reports are from news departments, civilian organizations and individuals all over the world, but most of our reports stem from the Center for UFO Studies' UFO Central Hotline. This is a 24-hour, toll-free telephone service for the exclusive use of law enforcement agencies, FAA agencies, planetaria and other formal channels. This gives us the chance to follow up *all* cases rapidly for first-hand information with unlimited long-distance capability. Other advantages include screening of the hoaxers. Indeed, police who patrol when others are asleep are encouraged to fill this void.

HOW WE DEFINE UFO'S: Any anomalous aerial phenomena whose appearance and/or behavior can't be ascribed to conventional objects and effects—not only by the original witnesses, but also by analysts who possess technical qualifications the original observer may lack.

NL—Nocturnal Light: distant anomalous lights seen in the night sky
DD—Daylight Discs: distant disc-like objects seen during the day
RV—Radar/Visual: UFOs seen by radar and vision simultaneously

CE I—Close Encounter of the First Kind: UFOs seen within 500 feet
CE II—Close Encounter of the Second Kind: CE I's that leave behind physical traces
CE III—Close Encounter of the Third Kind: CE I with humanoid occupants seen

HOW WE NUMBER CASES: All UFO sightings will receive a three element number which will serve as a case "name". The first numbers refer to the volume and issue number of the edition that contains the case, and the last number refers to the order it arrived (example: 1-1-7, the seventh case of the first issue).

1—Confirmed Identifieds

These reports completely break down as having commonplace explanations when subjected to rigorous scrutiny. We have either correlated them directly to some stimulus present at that time or, at least, have judged them to be well within the bounds of contemporary knowledge. This month's IFO reports were generated by the following phenomena:

- There are 14 recent cases still being investigated—the results will be made known in the news page

Verifications and complete details of these evaluations are on file and available upon request.

IFO's Reported for Oct. 15-Sept. 14, Inclusive

Advertising Planes	25	Moon	3
Stars and Planets	23	Prank Balloon	1
Aircraft (lights)	18	Satellite	1
Helicopters	6	Searchlight	1
Meteors	6	IFO TOTAL	84

2—UFOs of Limited Merit

These reports are of intermediate stature. They are UFOs in the sense that we don't know what they are, but for a variety of stated *reasons, they are not really worthy of closer scrutiny.*

CASE	TYPE	DATE	TIME	DURATION	WITNESSES	PLACE
1-2-20	NL	10/19/76	9:35 PM	10 min.	2+ others	Minneapolis, MN

Two men, 18 and 19, along with a dozen strangers, at the SW end of Lake Harriet see a yellow "cone of light" with a row of windows at the bottom hover below a 4,200 ft. cloud cover for 2 minutes, disappear, and reappear in a new location; this repeats 4 or 5 times, and the object disappears up into the clouds.
Observational errors such as cloud height and disagreements between the witnesses on details raise doubts. FAA at Minn.-St. Paul logged no unusual traffic.

1-2-62	NL	11/4/76	8:30 PM	4+5 min.	2+1	Martinsburg, O

Man and wife see two, irregularly-shaped objects, rounded on the bottoms, hovering low near their car; one descended, flying over the woods, while the other was seen over the telephone wires off the road. Both had a red light on top, a white flashing light on the bottom, and a revolving red light. Three similar objects were also perceived independently by a woman 4 miles away around 9:30 PM, slowly changing formation for 5 min. in the east. None of the witnesses could hear noise.
Considerable difficulty securing details from the closest witnesses; Ohio National Guard listed a number of sources for low-flying "tactical" helicopter activity.

1-2-75	NL	11/8/76	8:45 PM	6 min.	2	N. Belmont, NC

Two 14-yr. old girls see a gray, round object "on edge" about 20 - 30 feet in diameter hover several hundred feet over their residential neighborhood for 5 min. and move east over the trees in 1 min. The object emitted a "beeping" noise and was covered in *flashing white lights* with red steady lights. An article appeared in the Gastonia Gazette.
The appearance and behavior suggests an ad plane, a common IFO "nuisance" this month, but local ad plane companies were not in the air that night; out-of-state ad planes are not uncommon. See the "Profile" section for details.

1-2-79	NL	11/10/76	8:20 PM	1 min.	2	Putnam, CT

17-yr. old girl driving alone passes underneath 2 round, dark metallic objects about 50 feet in diameter, one flying at an angle behind the other. Both objects had a red light in front, two on the sides, and a blue in the back, all blinking. One banked slightly before it was out of view, revealing a row of illuminated windows around the circular edge, and a smaller circle "like a hatch" underneath. Witness stated that local papers reported it inaccurately.
Largely a single witness case; the second witness was picked up, and the two saw "it" (assumed) and three others like it, only further in the distance, and only *as lights. Bradley FAA in Windsor Locks logged no unusual traffic on radar, no additional reports to the police; possible helicopters and/or aircraft.*

3—Progress Reports

The INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER is following the progress of three UFO close encounters, two of which involve tangible physical effects which are being studied, a third involving UFO occupants who examine a couple and cause them to forget the experience; all three sightings are "prototypical" of phenomena reported many times before: power failures, electrical damage and abduction. As is our policy, IUR will follow these cases to their conclusion in future issues.

Refer to the definitions on the previous page for the three different kinds of Close Encounters.

ABDUCTION IN WESTERN KANSAS

CASE	TYPE	DATE	TIME	DURATION	WITNESSES	PLACE
(pre-IUR)	CEIII	6/20/76	night	undetermined	2	W. Kansas

Richard Sigismonde of Boulder, Colorado has been investigating an apparent "abduction" case involving a young couple in Colorado. The names of the witnesses are still being held in confidence as the experience was traumatic to them, and their welfare is currently as important as information retrieval. The witnesses, ages 18 and 19, were driving from Ohio to Colorado with their 4½-month old child on the night of June 20th. While approaching the western border of Kansas, they observed a group of 3 "UFO's", followed by a group of 4 and finally, a single, low-flying one. The mystery truly began for them *here*, however, for they suddenly could not account for 90 miles of driving, and an as-yet-undetermined amount of time.

The Center for UFO Studies learned of this case via its police Hotline, and asked Mr. Sigismonde, with a background in psychiatry and hypnosis, to investigate it. He contacted the couple with a total lag of 11 days, and from July 12 through October submitted them to hypnotic regression to reveal what had been "forgotten". 25 hours of recorded sessions later, the couple revealed a tale of abduction and medical examination by humanoids inside the UFO last seen.

The UFO itself was described (under hypnosis) as "2 huge pie plates", whose rim joined in a distinct, perfect edge. Its contour was more rounded than a pie plate, however, being 40 feet high and 140-160 feet across. Both the interior and exterior were described in considerable detail. Two rings were located above and below the rim of the exterior, rotating clockwise.

The three humanoids were described as helmetted, and of medium size (about 5'5"). Unlike other accounts of rough or impersonal treatment, the occupants showed consideration for the needs and well-being of the couple. The couple said they were moved from room to room by means of irresistible telepathic commands.

The testimony under hypnosis? Both individuals were questioned independently with no data provided to them during the sessions. They claim that they were isolated from each other on board the UFO, yet they describe similar accounts which do not cross-contradict, and are internally consistent. Their description of clear weather has been checked, and is accurate. They don't have a history of UFO "awareness", but are well-aware of them.

Mr. Sigismonde possesses letters from the couple's minister and their older relatives that testify to strange marks on their bodies, and the child's. These include needle marks on their arms, strap marks across their wrists and ankles (the baby, too), "rashes" and "scars" on their backs which healed quickly. They allege that odd "psychic" and "telepathic" occurrences have happened to them in the interim.

A complete treatment of this case when completed will likely appear as a book by Mr. Sigismonde, but IUR readers will have an excerpted version in a future issue.

POWER FAILURE FROM THREE UFO'S?

CASE	TYPE	DATE	TIME	DURATION	WITNESSES	PLACE
1-2-B1	CEII	9/10/76	12:45AM	20 min.	1+	Colusa, CA.

Paul Cerny, a CUFOS / MUFON investigator, has informed IUR of a sighting that took place Sept. 10th, but was not reported to the police Hotline. Mr. Cerny interviewed the main witness and additional "lesser" witnesses on Oct. 9th. Most of the events performed by the three domed saucers involved were witnessed by Mr. Bill Pecha, a 39-year old heavy-machine mechanic. The case involves very low-flying "craft" that can hover for minutes, then rush miles away in a matter of seconds; strange appendages, hooks, and projecting lights that extend from the main craft are described; electrostatic effects on Mr. Pecha's body make his hair stand on end; a county-wide blackout confirmed by Pacific Gas & Electric personnel coincided with two of the UFO's hovering over the 500,000 volt power lines, making them *glow red*; the pursuit of the Pecha's truck by the main UFO as the family rushed away; unusual effects were noted upon the local vegetation, and analysis is being attempted. IUR is completing its investigation of this unusual sighting, and will run a complete report in the manner introduced in the first issue in next month's IUR if the case continues to hold up under scrutiny.

GAS STATION DAMAGED BY UFO?

CASE	TYPE	DATE	TIME	DURATION	WITNESSES	PLACE
(pre-IUR)	CEII	7/31/76	app. 11:45PM	minutes	1, plus others	Council Bluffs, IA

Investigator Ralph DeGraw and asst. Pat Crowley had their work cut out for them on this physical trace case in Iowa because of the intrigue involved. DeGraw learned of this case from the local newspaper and interviewed the primary individuals involved 13 days after the event. According to her brother-in-law, the main witness, Debbie Focken, left her job at 11:30 PM, driving on I-80 and crossed the river into Council Bluffs. Seeing a bright stationary light near the 24th St. exit, she wondered if it was a helicopter patrol and pulled the car over to watch. What she reportedly saw was an oblong object with illuminated windows hovering about 100 feet over Eldon's Standard Service Station and lighting up the area. No tail or props could be seen, and no noise was heard . . . only the sound of traffic on I-80. Some other cars were seen by her to pull over and more people got out to watch. Still there when she left, she rushed home for her brother-in-law and took him back to the scene, but the object was no longer over the gas station. Those other cars were still present but the occupants did not wish to discuss the incident with them. Focken and her brother-in-law decided to keep the story to themselves as no one would believe them. He was involved in local politics, and didn't want to be accused of publicity-seeking.

It was later that he learned of the extensive electrical damage that had been done to the station, damage reported to have occurred at the same time of the UFO sighting! So Focken's brother-in-law decided the story was too important to withhold, and informed the local newspaper.

A CB radio, a burglar alarm and an adding machine were damaged beyond repair; a cash register was able to be repaired; a vending machine had malfunctioned only temporarily, spilling change on the ground. The two attendants on duty at the station that night didn't report a UFO to their insurance agent, however; they told him it started to rain hard at 9 PM, and lightning struck twice between 11:40 and 11:55 PM, resulting in the damage. Mr DeGraw's investigation lists the following individuals who assert that there was NO LIGHTNING, THUNDER AND/OR RAIN on the night of July 31st in Council Bluffs:

1) the National Weather Service across the river in Omaha
2) a Mr. Rob Sorenson who lives near the station and sat on his patio until midnight
3) an unnamed Ramada Inn employee who left work near the station at 11 PM
4) a man at an electronic "jamboree" that night in Council Bluffs
5) the gas station owner, *himself,* as related to the repair shop owner where he took his damaged equipment. The technician who examined the equipment said it *resembled* lightning damage, but the owner told IUR that the damage was internal, with an *un*damaged AC cord, which he asserted would have melted if lightning was the damaging agent; hence, IUR wonders if the gas station personnel don't really know what caused the damage.

The gas station owner told IUR that he talked to several customers who claimed to have seen the UFO mentioned in the papers, but didn't want to say anything, or people "would think they were crazy". A Council Bluff family also reported seeing the same object about that time and place. We have learned however, that they have been over-zealous in the past about "UFO sightings"; so IUR must regrettably reject their testimony.

Mr. DeGraw checked the FAA Radar Approach Control at Omaha, but the supervisor recorded no image suggestive of a UFO. Remember, the actual manner of disappearance in this case was unwitnessed, and it was only 100 feet up. No additional reports were made to the Council Bluffs police.

More investigation has to be performed here. Necessary delays have been created; we are still waiting for the first-hand testimony of the main witness, the results of the insurance investigation (an insurance policy that includes UFO damage ?) and the power records of the Iowa Power & Light Co.

Watch for further details in IUR.

CUFOS / MUFON investigator Ted Phillips, creator of the extensive PHYSICAL TRACES catalog, is submitting details of a UFO landing that took place last summer in Ottawa, Kansas. A man and his family watched a glowing sphere which descended to the ground; a humanoid occupant was seen to leave the "craft" and walk around the area. When the humanoid and the UFO departed, the family found small footprints in the ground; unfortunately, no casts or photos were made of the prints, but an officer claimed that two other sightings of a similar nature were reported to him on the same day. In accordance with standard IUR follow-up policy, further details will be reported next month if available.

* * * * * * * THE LATEST UFO NEWS EVENTS, PREPARED NOV. 29, 1976 * * * * * * *

UFO'S IN THE U.N., CONT. - IUR has acquired a transcription of the speech that Prime Minister Eric Gairy addressed to the General Assembly of the United Nations on Oct. 7. In it, he states, "one wonders why the existence of UFO's ... continues to remain a secret to those in whose archives repose useful information and other data. While we appreciate that some countries consider this to be in the interest of military expedience, I now urge that a different view be taken because it is my firm conviction that the world is ready, willing and ripe enough to accept these phenomena...". Lubos Perek, chief of the U.N.'s Outer Space Division, is monitoring the consequences of this address and will inform IUR of any future reactions.

CANADA'S 1973 UFO WAVE - Claude MacDuff of Quebec, Canada has released a study via UFO-QUEBEC of 37 UFO cases that occurred in that province throughout the month of November, 1973. These cases include landings, humanoids, EM effects on cars, and irradiated witnesses. The "flap" of sightings is of interest as it followed the U.S. October, 1973 "flap" by one month.

NICAP COMPLETES ITS SECOND DECADE - The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), the second oldest civilian UFO organization in the United States, is now twenty years old. It was officially organized in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 14, 1956. Members of its original Board of Directors included the late Frank Edwards, radio and TV personality who did much to acquaint the public with the UFO phenomenon, Rear Admiral Fahrney, Ret., and Col. Robert Emerson, physicist. The man whose name has been most frequently associated with NICAP is Major Donald Keyhoe, Ret., whose confrontations with the Air Force often made the headlines.

UFO INTEREST IN INDONESIA - The Indonesian Foreign Minister, Adam Malik, has invited Dr. J. Allen Hynek to lecture on UFO's and astronomy at the university in Jakarta and the observatory in Lembang in December.

CUFOS CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE - The Proceedings of the 1976 Center for UFO Studies Conference is now available as a 334 - page limited edition for fifteen dollars. The Center requests that checks or money orders be mailed to: CUFOS, 924 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, Illinois 60202, c/o Nancy Dornbos. The Proceedings include papers delivered by such well-known ufologists as Ballester-Olmos, Bloecher, Gates, Haines, Hall, Jacobs, McCambell, Poher, Saunders, Spaulding, Sprinkle, Stanford, Webb, Worley and many others too numerous to mention. The publication in itself is a striking "update" on all phases of UFO research around the world in 1976.

UFO RESEARCH IN AUSTRALIA - Twenty delegates representing all of the major UFO organizations in Australia met on October 24 - 26 for their second annual conference, UFOCON TWO. A broad range of issues were presented in papers and discussions, many of which reflect the stated desire of the Australian groups to pool their resources while retaining their independence. They have organized joint projects, shared cases, worked on standardizing their investigation methods, and discussed the issuance of standard ID cards for the investigators of all groups.

UFO ANALYSIS - Of the 14 recent sightings that remained, 4 were ad planes, 2 were stars, 1 was aircraft lights, 1 was a meteor, and 6 are still under investigation. Watch for next month's UFO NEWSFRONT for follow-up on these 6 cases.

STUCK FOR A CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA ?

WHY NOT GIVE UFO'S FOR XMAS ?

A gift subscription to the International UFO Reporter, that is. Now your friends can receive the latest news about the fascinating UFO phenomenon, and it's a gift that lasts all year long! IUR can send a gift card with the first issue with your name on it, too! Hurry, Christmas is almost upon us. A one-year subscription is $12 in the U.S. and Canada, $20 foreign.

- - - -

"What ever happens to all the UFO reports that get collected?"
"Has anyone ever tried to collect ALL of the known UFO reports?"

UFOCAT

A UNIQUE TOOL FOR RESEARCH

by Fred Merritt, CUFOS

Dr. J. Allen Hynek has repeatedly written and spoken on a situation which he aptly refers to as "the embarassment of riches". So many interesting UFO reports exist that investigators cannot begin to properly investigate them all. In fact, researchers are hard-pressed to deal with even the data that is available, because there are so many reports with a wide spectrum of diversity. UFOCAT represents a major step toward solving this problem, by providing a standard format for reports of varied content, and making them available in a random-access manner through computerization.

UFOCAT is a computer file of some 79,500 reports of unidentified flying objects. Dr. David R. Saunders began building UFOCAT in 1967, using as a start some 3000 cases submitted to the Condon Committee by Jacques Vallee, and donated it to the Center for UFO Studies in 1975. To our knowledge, UFOCAT is the largest organized catalog of UFO reports in the world.

A printout of a major section of UFOCAT has been in use at the Center for some time. Each entry in UFOCAT is a record of the salient features of a report of an individual UFO event, citing the source. Multiple reports of a single event are blocked together, headed by the primary entry, generally the earliest chronological report. Subsequent investigations or witnesses' statements are "flagged". The 79,500 report entries contain about 50,000 primary entries, and therefore around 29,500 duplicate reports from multiple sources.

The UFOCAT Codebook, available from the Center for UFO Studies, details entry structure, codes and conventions.

How Does UFOCAT Aid Scientific Research?

Since UFOCAT categorizes information such as date, location, time, number of witnesses, duration, type of sighting, etc. (*and* a code indicating further references on the sighting), it can serve in itself as the basis for statistical research—the search for patterns that may exist when studying UFO reports as a *whole*. Three examples of this kind of research employing UFOCAT are:

"Extrinsic Factors in UFO-Reporting" (Paper 75-43, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics) by David Saunders—a demonstration of the usefulness of three factors (population, area, and education) as predictors of the number of UFO reports within a given county in the U.S.

"A Spatio-Temporal Invariant for Major UFO Waves" (Proceedings of the Center for UFO Studies Conference, 1976) by Dr. David Saunders —an attempt to show that "waves" of UFO reports (minus those waves generated by publicity) exhibit a near-perfect correlation between calendar date and longitude on a world scale. The optimum date-place combinations move east with advancing time, completing one circumference around the globe per year. This implicates absolute *sidereal* time as an independent variable influencing reported UFO activity.

"Periodicity of Flaps" (Proceedings of the Center for UFO Studies Conference, 1976) by Irving Anderson—additional support of the above hypothesis

Another use for UFOCAT is the production of special UFO catalogs. By preparing a program that selects UFO reports with features of specific interest from the computerized files, entire listings can be created on demand. In the past few months, specialists in several countries have utilized UFOCAT report catalogs designed to fulfill such diverse needs as:

- 1973 UFO reports
- humanoid reports
- sightings from aircraft
- reports from Ohio
- reports with electro-magnetic effects
- close encounters in Great Britain
- abduction reports
- imprint reports, and more

Content is available on an "at cost" basis to those whose interests are scientific and who will make their findings available to others. Of course, UFOCAT routinely keeps certain information confidential, such as witnesses' names in un-

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL UFOCAT ENTRY LOOK LIKE?

IFN	UFN	SOURCE	DATE TIME	LOCATION	STCY
	64677	3TBR73FA.	6411250015	NEW BERLIN	*NY09
64677	85939	5FR 74JL*	6411250045	NEW BERLIN	NY09

DECODED: The first line is the original entry; UFN (UFOCAT File Number) #64677, from Ted Bloecher's investigative files. The sighting took place Nov. 25, 1964 at 15 min. past midnight (64-11-25-0015 hrs.) in New Berlin, New York (Chenago county-#09). It was seen by 2 witnesses, both females of the same family (2 1XF); the witnesses' names were withheld in the investigative files. The type of sighting (7TT) was of the occupant variety with imprints found. 2 objects were reported seen for a duration of 4 hours; each object was around 32 feet in size (Z = an exponent of 2, in

published reports. A small part of the file is, at the request of the contributors, confidential. These reports are tallied in statistical summaries only.

File Content

From where does the material for UFOCAT come? A survey of the files in 1973 showed these distributions:

SIGHTING SOURCES	
Investigative files	35.0%
Report catalogs	27.0%
Journals, periodicals	22.1%
Books	15.9%
	100.0%

COUNTRIES	
U.S.	61.3%
Europe	21.8%
S. & Cent. America	4.4%
Canada	3.7%
Oceania	2.9%
Asia	2.3%
Oceans, Antarctica	2.3%
Africa	1.3%
	100.0%

YEARS	
1945 & prior	0.1%
1946-50	9.3%
1951-55	20.7%
1956-60	19.3%
1961-65	15.6%
1966-70	30.2%
1971-73	4.8%

These figures are approximate, based on arbitrary summation, only to indicate the general scope of the file at that time. Since 1973, UFOCAT has grown by about a third. The direction of growth has tended to increase the representation of foreign cases relative to domestic ones, while adding a substantial number of reports for the more recent years (the most recent report in UFOCAT today is from August 1976).

Report Content

UFOCAT presents data such as date, time, location, etc. in a reasonably self-explanatory manner, as shown in the sample below. UFOCAT then faces the problem of describing a wide range of different kinds of reports, many of which have one or more features of particular interest to Ufologists. The seven report type and subtype columns present this additional report content information, at least in outline.

Type is both a description of the event and a gauge of its degree of "strangeness." A single digit indicates report type, as follows:

TYPE CODE/REPORT CONTENT

1—UFO stationary or moved with the apparent motion of the stairs.
2—UFO moved in a continuous trajectory.
3—UFO moved with a single discontinuity.
4—UFO moved in a non-continuous trajectory with more than one discontinuity.
5—Close encounter [all photo, radar and electro-magnetic cases are coded at least 5].
6—UFO "landed" within the frame of reference of the witness
7—One or more "occupants" were reported outside the object. [Includes "occupant" cases where no UFO was seen].
8—Witness reported intelligent communication associated with the experience.
9—UFO apparently caused physical effects in the witness or on other animal life which remains after the UFO is gone.

Type 5 and above reports tend to be much more detailed, often embodying several features of high strangeness. As many as six different subtypes may be used to outline the content of a single report. Among others, there are subtype letter codes to indicate:

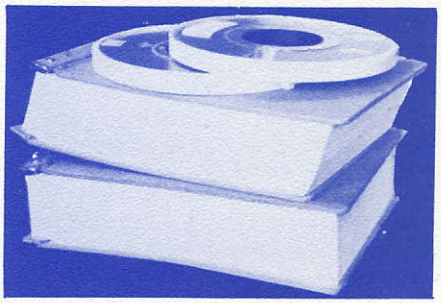
Object actions: acrobatics, buzzing, pacing, noise.
Object effects: Electro-magnetic, gravity effects, animal effects, physiological effects on witnesses.
Instrumented observation: radar, multiple radar, radar/visual confrontation, other instrumental observations.
Physical traces: imprints, circle or ring, radioactivity, chemical changes, altered field, other traces.
Photos: still photos, movies. (Either may be modified as point in motion, luminous, out of focus, structured, or photos of discs.)

Although the potential six individual subtypes for each report highlight report content features of great interest, they do not replace truly detailed coding of report content, for which an additional 80 UFOCAT columns are reserved.

UFOCAT Sources

At present UFOCAT contains entries from over 220 different sources, and the list is growing steadily.

Further inquiries regarding UFOCAT, the UFOCAT codebook, and program requests should be addressed to the author c/o the Center for UFO Studies, 924 Chicago Ave., Evanston, Ill. 60202.



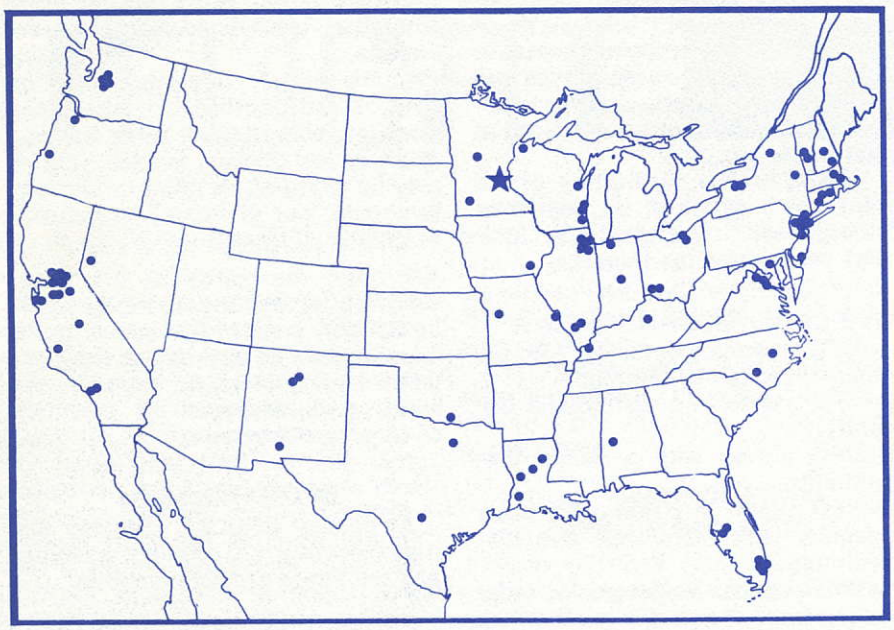
ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Fred Merritt is known to UFOCAT as a source (investigative files and imprint catalog), a user of specialized output (in preparation of a paper presented at the 1976 Center Conference), and as a friend who has coded several thousand entries for addition to the file.

#	***	WITNESS	TYPE	O	M	Z	COORDINATES	
2	1XF		7TT	2	4H	5	75.336	42.653
2	1XF	"MERRYWEATHER"	7TT	2	4H	5		

units of feet; in this case, 2 to the 5th power). The "Coordinates" are longitude and latitude, respectively.

The second line is a second source describing the same case. The IFN (Indirect File Number) shows it stems from Ted Bloecher's investigation, and serves to block the two entries for a single event together. The UFN of #85939 files this account from the Oct. 1974 issue of FSR magazine (from Source). The other information is repetitive; the witness column indicates that the FSR article used the pseudonym "Merryweather."

PROFILE: OCTOBER, 1976



● —IFO ★ —UFO

Stars and Planets	30
Ad Planes	28
Aircraft	13
Helicopters	6
Meteors	7
Moon	3
Balloon	1
Mirage	1
NL	1
Total Number of Reports	90
Average Per Day	2.9
Peak Activity (7 cases)	10/12
Total Number of UFO's	1
Total Number of IFO's	89

UFO's: 1.1% **IFO's:** 98.9%

WHY ADVERTISING PLANES?
Advertising planes fly at night with illuminated billboards of moving lights forming words. Seen at an angle, it looks exactly like a rotating disc. A red light is generally seen above the sign, often suggesting a dome.
One amusing incident took place this month when a woman watched an ad plane at an angle, and reported it as a "UFO". She said that she got the distinct impression that the UFO was "trying to send her a message of some sort" ("Drink 7-Up", perhaps?).

WHY SO MANY STARS?
Stars are being reported because they are seen to scintillate, or twinkle, and flash red and blue colors from atmospheric refraction. They are also seen to move erratically up, down and sideways, always returning to their original positions; this is imparted by atmospheric turbulence (unrelated to the "clearness" of the night sky), autokinesis (a common visual illusion in the absence of a frame of reference), and comparison with moving clouds.

The UFO (NL) is #1-2-20, reviewed in this issue. The total number of reports is down considerably from last month, by 30%.

Verifications and complete details of these evaluations are on file and available upon request.

COMMENTARY

TOWARDS A NEW TREATMENT —PART TWO

by Allan Hendry, Managing Editor

Last issue, the lack of progress troubling the field of UFOlogy was discussed. It was established that to help improve the current state of affairs, we must improve our methodology, by insisting on first-hand information, a standard treatment of investigation, the search for corroborative evidence, and expert analysis to insure that the "unidentified" label is not superficial.

Finally, we must adopt a tough set of standards about our "input" if we are to help elevate the state of the UFO art. In our sightings, we must place a high premium on multiple-witness cases over single-witness. No "physical trace" cases without an actual UFO sighting will be considered here. Indeed, there are a plethora of "phenomena" which have been freely incorporated in the past into the UFO framework even though they are not correlated directly to UFO activity. Pure astronomy articles, the Bermuda Triangle, "Bigfoot", "ancient astronauts", cattle mutilations, "Pyramid Power" and the like, are outside of the scope of our efforts as they don't involve direct UFO sightings.

Considerable stress has been placed on UFO photographs, yet they must be integrated into an overall investigation.When so many pictures are of film defects, lens flares, double exposures ("we didn't actually *see* it at the time . . . "), and hoaxes (small models and Frisbees), we should learn not to place such a high premium on them as evidence. Last of all is our feature article. It is desirable that this material be pursuant to the scientific method, be written by authors working within their own fields and avoid "blue sky" speculation articles, which have been so common. Corroborating data is essential as a prelude to hypotheses, as is the validation of UFO reports used in statistical studies.

If we faithfully pursue these guidelines, and maintain these high standards, then IUR will surely make its mark as proceeding toward a new treatment of the UFO field, as well as a new progress.